



## Dr. Landis C. Stewart MD

September 6, 1923 - February 16, 2021

ADRIAN – Dr. Landis C Stewart, MD, age 97, of Adrian, MI passed away on Tuesday afternoon, February 16, 2021, at home with his family by his side.

Landis was born on September 6, 1923, to Waldron and Neta (Sawyer) Stewart in Adrian. His mother, Neta, died when Landis was a young boy; and he was blessed when his father married Geraldine Miller, who loved and raised him as her own.

His thirst for knowledge and adventure was evident at a young age. Landis graduated from Adrian High School and started attending classes at Adrian College before he was called into service during World War II. During the War, he graduated first in his class at The U.S. Navy Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Cornell University and went on to become an Ensign aboard the USS Beverly W. Reid, which was tasked to be part of the Invasion of Japan when the war ended.

After the War and upon his discharge from the Navy in 1946, Landis returned to Adrian College using the GI Bill and earned his bachelor's degree in chemistry. He went on to the University of Michigan where he received his Medical Doctor (MD) in 1950. From there, he interned at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit and then completed his residency in Ophthalmology at the University of Iowa. While in Iowa, he met a special redhead Carol Landis. The two discovered they had much more in common than just the name Landis, and were married on August 21, 1954 in Wichita, Kansas.

Landis and Carol moved to Marquette, MI where he started his Ophthalmology practice. After two years, Landis moved his young family home to Adrian in 1956 where he started his new practice. Over the next 50 years, he dedicated himself to practicing Ophthalmology for the residents of Lenawee County.

Landis loved his family and enjoyed being active. He was a common face at the local YMCA where he played racquetball for over 55 years at lunchtime with friends. Flying airplanes was Landis' passion, and he piloted Cessna's from Lenawee County Airport for

family, business, and philanthropic missions. These missions included flying search-and-rescue for the Civil Air Patrol (U.S. Air Force Auxiliary), and medical patient transport for Angel Flight. Over the years, Landis attended First Baptist Church in Adrian, Adrian First United Methodist Church, and West Rome Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife, Carol, of 66 years; children Elizabeth Lucille Stewart, David Landis (Kimberly) Stewart, Peter Clifford Stewart, Joseph Donald (Patricia Maria) Stewart, Frances Marian Stewart, Martha Virginia Landis (Alex Britton) Stewart and Robert Landis Stewart; 15 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Landis was preceded in death by his brothers, Waldron and Gordon Stewart.

There will be a Celebration of Life on Sunday June 20, 2021 at 2 p.m. at Adrian College, in the Tobias Room. Wagley Funeral Home, Adrian has been entrusted with arrangements, where online memories and condolences may be shared at [www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com](http://www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com).

# Comments

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“ Dear Stewart Clan,

From about the age of five and onward, as Joe's friend I always felt as if I were a member of your family too. Your father was always bigger than life in my eyes. The Eye Doctor, the Pilot, a loved and deeply respected member of the community, the Tennis Player (Raquetball too!) and the cool guy in a bow tie driving a convertible Mercedes Benz. Step aside Sean Connery. He also plainly understood that a big, cool family also needed a big, cool dog; Tilly! Then Jackie! As someone with Scottish family heritage I was in awe at his family tree and long lineage of Scottish family history as depicted in the diagram hanging above the piano.

It was all the little things in between that he made time for despite the busy life of a doctor that made him so special. The trips to get ice cream on a weekend afternoon or taking us flying in his plane. Not so many days go by where I don't fondly remember his flying Joe, Chuck Jameson and me down to Wright Patterson AFB to visit the aviation museum. That was a big event for me and one I cherish dearly to this day.

So often Dr. Stewart could readily contribute to teachable moments. Whether we were seeing a play or musical, listening to a news story or doing homework, he could always provide some color and context sharing what he knew and relating his own life experience.

I recall his entering the room and telling us to switch off the TV and for all of us to get busy with homework and yet when we were done, he'd invite us to his study to learn and play chess. This also meant getting to listen to his amazing sound system. There was always something he was up to that got your interest like his deciding to build a real airplane (BD5) in the basement. I still think about the gigantic swing set in the backyard. To swing any higher would mean becoming airborne.

I've had the good fortune to pursue a career and to raise a family of my own. While I no longer live in the same community, Dr. Stewart without question, left indelible marks upon both my heart and mind in ways I am sure have guided me along the way in life in some small way and I will forever be grateful for having known him and being woven into your family.

Love,

David Cruickshank

David Cruickshank - February 25 at 03:17 PM

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“ My sympathy to the Stewart family.  
My mother Virginia Driskill of Hudson was a patient.  
I would take her to her eye appointments and every time On our return trip to Hudson she would always tell me how they discussed flying as she was a pilot instructor during World War Two.  
She was sways say after each visit what excellent doctor he was.  
Again my sympathy  
Jim Driskill  
Hudson

Jim Driskill - February 22 at 08:37 PM

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“ Such a sweet man! A gentle giant in the way he lived his life. My condolences to all the family and a special one to Carol, a long time friend. May you all find peace knowing that he lived a full life on his own terms and was an excellent physician who helped many Lenawee citizens. God's speed Landis.  
Anne Gascoigne



Anne B Gascoigne - February 22 at 07:47 PM

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“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dr. Landis C. Stewart MD.



February 22 at 06:56 PM

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“ Always enjoyed seeing Dr. Stewart and his wife at North Rome Baptist Church. What a kind and thoughtful gentleman. He enjoyed sharing a love for flying with us

**Cynthia and Pete Pepple** - February 22 at 02:19 PM

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“ Loved Dr. Stewart my whole life. Not only as my eye doctor, but as a close friend of my parents. Carol and “Landy” . My mom went through school with Dr. Stewart too. I Bless the family at this difficult time. A wonderful man. Many memories will linger.

**Debby Pellowe** - February 22 at 10:10 AM

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“ Dr. Stewart first helped my husband, and years later, myself. His down to earth communication was easy to understand and helped us to learn more about our eyes, which lead to life long habits. He had a sense of humor and adventure. We would often see him at the Travel and Adventure Series in Tecumseh. Thank you for sharing so many gifts with us.



**Sharon and Ron Wimple** - February 22 at 08:47 AM

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“ Landis was a devoted physician and a great friend and supporter. He represented the peak of excellence in medicine in our community. He always had a smile and a handshake for a young practitioner. He had a keen interest in history and hosted memorable meetings of the Civil War Roundtable. He will be sorely missed.

**Steven Sherman** - February 22 at 08:38 AM

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“ Uncle Landis was a very warm and wonderful uncle to myself and my sister Ann. He always found time to visit with us when we would come from Grand Rapids to Adrian, and shared his love of flying with us. He was a superb Ophthalmologist to my whole family, and was so generous in sharing all of his good fortune. He was very inspirational to me, and was the main reason why I looked into going to graduate school after college to obtain a PhD in a medically related field. I will miss him terribly.

**Christine Stewart Mehigh** - February 21 at 06:49 PM

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“ My husband and I both saw Dr. Stewart at various times. A more kind, compassionate, and gentle doctor does not exist. He was one of a kind, and will be missed.

**Darlene Hooker** - February 21 at 11:45 AM

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“ Leonard & Darlene Hooker lit a candle in memory of Dr. Landis C. Stewart MD



**Leonard & Darlene Hooker** - February 21 at 11:43 AM